



**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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Assessed Manpower of Warsaw Pact Forces in the NATO Guidelines Area, 1984

Interagency Intelligence Memorandum

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**ASSESSED MANPOWER OF
WARSAW PACT FORCES IN THE
NATO GUIDELINES AREA, 1984**

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PREFACE

This Interagency Intelligence Memorandum assesses Warsaw Pact ground and air force manpower in Central Europe (East Germany, Poland, and Czechoslovakia). It was produced in support of the US effort to negotiate a mutual and balanced force reduction (MBFR) agreement and to establish the US position on the size of the Pact forces in the reduction area. The figures in the Memorandum represent the estimated numerical strength, as of 1 January 1984, of all Warsaw Pact personnel that the United States currently defines as military servicemen subject to MBFR negotiation: that is, "all active-duty uniformed military servicemen, except naval personnel, in the area of reduction." The rounded figures depict the US estimate of the number of military personnel assigned to the rosters of Pact units in Central Europe at the beginning of 1984 and are not intended to represent the number of personnel authorized or available for duty on one particular day. In a Statement of Estimative Confidence, the uncertainty associated with these point estimates has been quantified.

[redacted]
[redacted] we have always been less confident in the estimate of soldiers assigned to nondivisional units than in the estimate of those assigned to divisions. The fact that the 1984 estimate of troops assigned to divisions is lower than the 1983 estimate has raised questions about the nondivisional part of the estimate. During 1985, the US Intelligence Community will undertake a reexamination of the manpower assigned to nondivisional—especially rear services—units to improve our estimative confidence.

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This Memorandum was prepared under the auspices of the National Intelligence Officer for General Purpose Forces. It was drafted by [redacted] the Central Intelligence Agency and [redacted] [redacted] the Defense Intelligence Agency and was coordinated with the intelligence components of the Departments of State and Defense and with the Central Intelligence Agency.

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DEFINITION OF ROUNDING RULES

With the exception of maneuver division assessments, all printed line item figures, subtotals, and totals in this Memorandum have been subjected to the following rounding rules:

<u>Estimated figures in range</u>	<u>Rounded to nearest</u>
1 through 49	5
50 through 249	25
250 through 999	50
1,000 through 4,999	100
5,000 through 9,999	250
10,000 and greater	500

Although printed subtotals are rounded, totals have been derived from nonrounded subtotals (not shown).

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Summary of Changes Since the 1983 Assessment

This Memorandum presents our estimate of Warsaw Pact manpower in the NATO Guidelines Area (NGA) as of 1 January 1984. A comparison of this assessment with our previous one of 1 January 1983¹ shows a net decrease of 13,600 servicemen. The figures indicate a decrease of about 10,400 in the estimate for Pact ground forces and about 3,200 in that for Pact air and air defense forces. Significant changes in the figures since 1983 are summarized as follows:

- **Soviet Forces.** Evidence available since January 1983 reinforced last year's assessment of divisional undermanning. The implications of this evidence, coupled with the confirmation of some organizational contraction,² resulted in an assessment of Soviet divisional strengths for 1984 that was 9,600 less than the 1983 assessment. There was a decrease of 7,300 for the Group of Soviet Forces Germany (GSFG), 700 for the Northern Group of Forces (NGF), and 1,600 for the Central Group of Forces (CGF).

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- **Non-Soviet Forces.** In non-Soviet forces, incremental changes in individual line items accounted for most of the changes in the ground forces assessment. In East German National Forces, the introduction of new equipment in divisions caused an overall

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¹ Motorized rifle regiments of reorganized tank divisions were identified as having two rather than three motorized rifle battalions.

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decrease (—600).

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Table 1

SUMMARY

A. WARSAW PACT MANPOWER IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA,
DIVIDED BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR FORCES

(All East European national air defense personnel are counted as air manpower, and all Pact helicopter personnel in units assigned to or support ground forces are counted as ground manpower.)

	<u>Ground</u>	<u>Maneuver (Divisions)</u>	<u>Air/Air Defense</u>	<u>Total</u>
Soviet	478,500	(271,000)	58,500	537,000
East Germany	122,500	(60,500)	38,000	160,500
Poland	232,500	(99,000)	91,500	324,000
Czechoslovakia	147,500	(66,500)	55,000	203,000 ^a
Total Warsaw Pact	981,500 ^b	(497,000)	243,000	1,224,500

B. CHANGES IN THE US ESTIMATE OF NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF
WARSAW PACT MANPOWER IN THE NATO GUIDELINES AREA

(This table presents the numerical differences between this estimate and the CIA/DIA estimate compiled in 1983-)

	<u>Ground</u>	<u>Air/Air Defense</u>	<u>Total</u>
Soviet	-9,000	0	-9,000
East Germany	-1,000	-500	-1,000 ^a
Poland	-1,500	-1,000	-2,500
Czechoslovakia	+500	-2,000	-1,500
Total Warsaw Pact	-10,500 ^b	-3,200 ^b	-13,500 ^{a b}

^a Because of rounding rules, totals do not add across.

^b Because of rounding rules, totals do not add down.

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TABLE II
SUMMARY OF WARSAW PACT MANNING TOTALS
BY FORCE CATEGORY ^a

	Combat	Percentage of Force ^b	Combat Support	Percentage of Force ^b	Service Support	Percentage of Force ^b	Total
Soviet Ground Forces							
GSFG	212,500	58.5	81,000	22.3	70,000	19.2	363,500
NGF	19,500	46.7	14,000	33.5	8,250	19.8	41,500 ^c
CGF	54,500	73.8	9,250	12.6	10,000	13.6	73,500 ^c
	286,500		104,000 ^d		88,000 ^d		478,500
National Ground Forces							
East German	61,000	49.9	20,500	16.5	41,000	33.6	122,500
Polish	99,000	42.5	42,000	18.1	91,500	39.4	232,500
Czechoslovakia	67,500	45.7	29,500	19.9	51,000	34.4	147,500 ^c
	227,500		92,000		183,500		503,000 ^d
Total Warsaw Pact Ground Forces	514,000		196,000		271,500		981,500
Soviet Air Force							
GSFG	11,000	28.2	17,500	45.2	10,000	26.6	38,500
NGF	4,500	30.1	7,250	48.2	3,200	21.7	15,000 ^c
CGF	1,700	32.1	2,400	45.8	1,200	22.1	5,250 ^c
	17,000 ^d		27,000 ^d		14,500 ^d		58,500 ^d
National Air and Air Defense Forces							
East German Air and Air Defense Forces	10,500	27.2	15,000	39.2	13,000	33.6	38,000 ^c
Polish Air Forces	5,500	12.9	10,500	24.2	27,500	62.9	43,500
Polish Air Defense Forces	15,500	32.3	20,500	42.4	12,000	25.3	48,000
Czechoslovak Air Forces	4,800	16.8	8,500	30.3	15,000	52.9	28,500 ^c
Czechoslovak Air Defense Forces	8,500	31.0	11,500	42.8	7,000	26.2	27,000
	44,500 ^d		66,000		74,500		184,500 ^{c d}
Total Warsaw Pact Air and Air Defense Forces	61,500		92,500 ^d		89,000		243,000
Total Manpower of Warsaw Pact Forces in the NATO Guidelines Area	575,500		288,500		360,500		1,224,500

^a Unit categories—combat, combat support, and service support—have been applied using NATO guidelines.^b Percentages of the force have been derived from nonrounded subtotals (not shown).^c Because of rounding rules, totals do not add across.^d Because of rounding rules, totals do not add down.

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